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Correlation between Employment Quality and Skill Training of Land-expropriated Farmers

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Abstract Based on field survey, an empirical analysis was made on the correlation between employment quality and skill training of land-expropriated farmers. The analysis indicated that there are differences in employment opportunity, employment sector, employment ability, wage income and employment stability between land-expropriated farmers. Besides, though skill training, it is feasible to effectively improve employment quality of land-expropriated farmers. The skill training exerts a significant effect on employment and urban adaptation of land-expropriated farmers. The mode of skill training promoting employment quality was proposed. Skill training can raise human resource level of land-expropriated farmers, and increase their labor and employment skills, to help them realize regular employment and smoothly become citizens. For fund sources for skill training, government and land expropriation unit should bring into play active role. And skill training should be undertaken under the guidance of government and support of land expropriation unit.

Key words Land-expropriated farmers, Employment quality, Skill training, Correlation

1 Introduction

Skill training, as an essential human capital investment method, is as important as formal education, and realization of human capital needs supplement and conversion through training^[1]. Training is the foundation of employment. Strengthening skill training of land-expropriated farmers is favorable for helping them to find a proper job in cities, so as to realize benign interaction with urbanization development. Therefore, it is an objective requirement for land-expropriated farmers to realize non-agricultural employment and obtain citizenship through skill training. According to the theory of human capital, the human capital is heterogeneous. In other words, difference in human capital determines variation in ability level. Li Zhongmin divided the ability into basic ability, specialized knowledge and skill, organization management and coordination ability, and resource allocation ability, corresponding to general type, skill type, management type, and enterpriser type human capital^[2]. The detail is illustrated in Fig. 1.

There is a complementarity between stock level of human capital and skill training. With higher educational level and certain work experience, land-expropriated farmers will understand and grasp skills instructed better, so as to manifest higher pro-

ductivity^[3]. In this survey, most land-expropriated farmers have low educational level, and the stock of human capital is low. They belong to general type human capital. Due to low ability, they will have greater difficulty in urban employment process. To increase the stock of human capital and improve human capital, land-expropriated farmers have to participate in skill training. There is a strong correlation between skill level and employment quality of land-expropriated farmers. Land-expropriated farmers with different skill level have enormous differences in employment opportunity, employment industry, employment ability, wage income, and employment stability. Skill training can effectively improve employment quality of land-expropriated farmers.

2 Correlation between employment quality and skill training

2.1 Data source Data in this study came from our questionnaire of field survey. In July to August, 2015, we carried out a field survey using simple random sampling and stratified sampling, supplemented with field interview. We organized postgraduates of School of Management, Henan University of Technology to conduct questionnaire survey and field interview in 20 villages of 5 towns in suburbs of Zhengzhou City. We distributed 600 copies and received 558 copies of questionnaire (536 copies were acceptable). The valid response rate was 89.3%. Detailed items of the questionnaire are listed in Table 1.

According to survey results, there are 330 men and 206 women, accounting for 61.6% and 38.4% respectively. Besides, 81.3% farmers are married, and 18.7% are unmarried. The average family labor is 1.96. Our field interview and questionnaire indicate that the income of most families still mainly comes from migrant work. Land-expropriated farmers in our survey are mainly 40 and 50 years old; educational level is mainly junior and senior middle

Received: July 3, 2016 Accepted: September 8, 2016

Supported by Henan Province Philosophy and Social Science Planning Project of 2015 (2015BJJ051); Henan Province Soft Science Project of 2016 (162400410041); the Project of Humanities and Social Science Foundation of Henan Provincial Department of Education (2014-qn-036); Fundamental Research Funds for Universities in Henan Province (2014YQWN10); High Level Talent Foundation Project of Henan University of Technology (2013BS058); Philosophy and Social Science Prosperity Foundation of Henan University of Technology (2013FRJH05).

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school; most of them are married and engaged in building, house-keeping, and restaurant service industries.

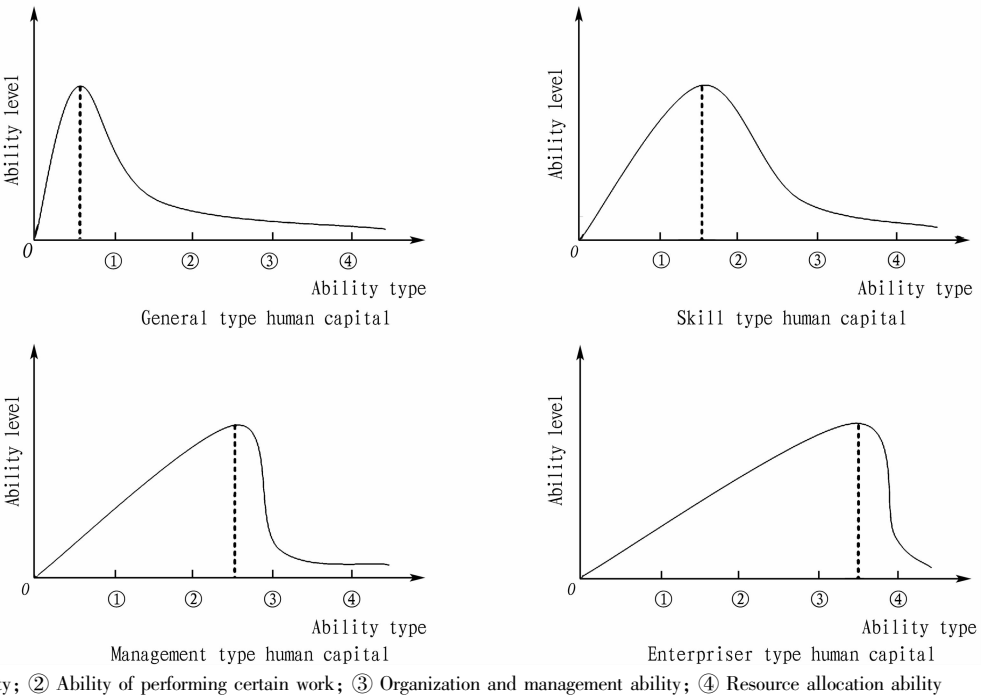


Fig. 1 Type of human capital

Table 1 Basic situation of land-expropriated farmers surveyed

Sex	Quantity of samples	Age	Quantity of samples	Marital status	Quantity of samples	Educational level	Percentage	Industry	Quantity of samples
Male	330	18 – 30 years old	89	Unmarried	98	Primary school and below	9.2	Industrial manufacturing	64
Female	206	31 – 40 years old	105	Married	436	Junior middle school	75.8	Building industry	286
		41 – 60 years old	342	Others		Senior middle school or special secondary school	14.6	Service industry	157
Total	536	Total	536	Total	536	College and above	0.4	Autonomous undertaking	29
						Total	100	Total	536

2.2 Relation between skill training and employment opportunity Non-agricultural labor skills of land-expropriated farmers directly influences the probability of their employment. In labor market, enterprises like to recruit skilled labors to save training costs. Therefore, skilled labors have advantages in obtaining em-

ployment information and channels. According to our survey, employment training and social insurance are major issues cared about by land-expropriated farmers. Land-expropriated farmers face difficulty of employment and survival. Considering their sustainable livelihood in cities, they hope to receive skill training.

Table 2 Main concerns of land-expropriated farmers

Main concerns	Social insurance	Training and employment	Housing	Minimum living security	Household registration
Percentage // %	26	36	13	15	10

Vocational skills of land-expropriated farmers directly influence their employment in cities. Constant upgrade of industrialization and modernization lays down higher requirement for vocational skill quality of land-expropriated farmers. Farmers with professional skills will be easier to find jobs in cities. There is a benign interaction mechanism between skill training and employment op-

portunity of land-expropriated farmers, as shown in Fig. 2. The direct effect of skill training is improvement in employment ability. According to our survey, labor skill is a prerequisite for smooth employment of land-expropriated farmers especially in formal sectors. From understanding of land-expropriated farmers about training effect, land-expropriated farmers have fully realized

the importance of receiving skill training. About 71.5% land-expropriated farmers believe that participation in skill training is helpful for finding jobs. From the perspective of the desire for receiving skill training, land-expropriated farmers want to improve their employment, living and development ability in cities through receiving training and education. About 55.93% land-expropria-

ted farmers have high demands for skill training and are willing to participate in skill training. Therefore, land-expropriated farmers have high expectation for skill training. In skill training and professional qualification certification of land-expropriated farmers, successful skill training is a key for land-expropriated farmers to smoothly enter the corresponding industry.

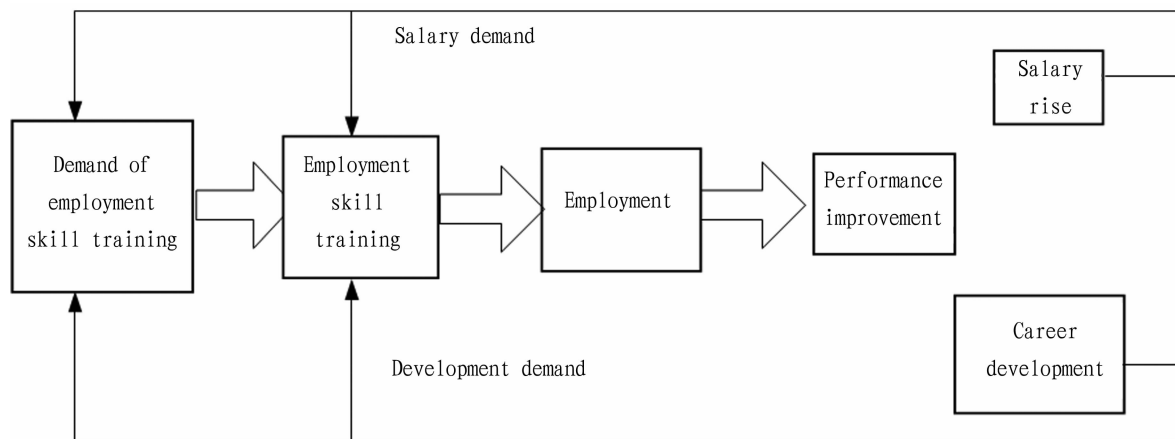


Fig. 2 Benign interaction between employment skill training and employment opportunity

Investment in skill training for land-expropriated farmers can directly improve their employment ability, and help them to promptly obtain or issue employment information. This is an important condition for land-expropriated farmers to find jobs in cities. At present, land-expropriated farmers find jobs in cities mainly through introduction of relatives and friends. It is difficult for them to obtain employment information. However, land-expropriated farmers with higher human capital can obtain, analyze and judge employment information, find proper jobs in a short period, which will greatly reduce job-hunting costs and default risks. Therefore, training of land-expropriated farmers directly concerns their employment. Related surveys and studies of domestic scholars have also proved this conclusion^[4]. According to our survey, only 1/10 land-expropriated farmers have obtained professional qualification or professional title certificate. Employment of land-expropriated farmers indicates that skill training exerts a significant influence on employment of land-expropriated farmers. For example, those land-expropriated farmers having received skill training are easier to start an undertaking or find jobs in state-own institutions or enterprises. For land-expropriated farmers with low non-agricultural employment ability and without receiving skill training, it is difficult to satisfy demand of high labor skills in labor market.

2.3 Relation between skill training and employment industry Skill level of labors directly concerns their employment industry. Now, most land-expropriated farmers are engaged in building, traffic and transportation, manufacturing, and catering industries. These industries have poor working environment, low wage return, low technology content, and lack stability. Unemployment of land-expropriated farmers is also manifested as structural unemployment, which is largely because land-expropriated

farmers lack non-agricultural employment skills. In this situation, it is urgent to strengthen skill training of land-expropriated farmers^[5]. According to our survey, land-expropriated farmers face two barriers to employment in cities, namely, education barrier and system barrier. Due to low educational level and lack of specialized technology training and learning, land-expropriated farmers have to work in dirty and hard industries such as building or catering, and fail to directly enter enterprises and institutions with high technology content. Skill training is an essential means for increasing the stock of human capital of land-expropriated farmers. The level of training degree directly determines their jobs. Our survey indicates that those land-expropriated farmers having received skill training are easier to get jobs in enterprise with three kinds of capital and state-owned institutions and enterprises^[4]. Our survey indicates that land-expropriated farmers in Zhengzhou suburbs are mainly engaged in wholesale, retailing, catering, manufacturing, and building industries which have relatively low requirements for labor skills, belong to physical labor industry, and have relatively low technology content. For those industries with high technology content, such as education, culture and art, radio, film and television, finance, insurance and other industries with high specialization, land-expropriated farmers are difficult to adapt to demands of these industries^[6]. According to our survey, educational level of land-expropriated farmers is mainly junior and senior middle school, accounting for 49.19% and 29.27% of total samples. Their training is mainly oriented towards building decoration, accommodation and catering, hairdressing and beauty, and house keeping industries. Such training is difficult to adapt to demands of industries with requiring high skills. These fully reflect that there is high correlation between industries of land-expropriated farmers and the training they have received. After receiving

excellent skill training, land-expropriated farmers will have high labor skills and can be engaged in industries with high technology content. Labor skills directly influence profession distribution of workers. There is a significant connection between profession distribution and labor skills of land-expropriated farmers. Skill training of land-expropriated farmers affects improvement of the quality of their labor skills.

Table 2 Influence of training experience on profession distribution of land-expropriated farmers

Industry	Without training experience	With training experience	Total
Industrial production	15	45	60
Building industry	110	136	246
Service industry	20	125	145
Autonomous undertaking	5	32	37
Total	150	338	488

According to overall situation of profession distribution, no matter for any profession, land-expropriated farmers with training experience have greater advantages than those without training experience. From the perspective of technicians, there is a small gap in training experience promoting land-expropriated farmers to become technicians. As to land-expropriated farmers becoming production workers, there is a big gap in training experience promoting land-expropriated farmers to become production workers. Those land-expropriated farmers without training experience mainly become production workers. This is highly connected with the fact that most farmers are engaged in building and manufacturing industries because these industries require relatively low skills. In the aspect of farmers becoming service workers of the tertiary industry, training experience brings a big gap for land-expropriated farmers becoming service workers of the tertiary industry. Because modern service industry has higher and higher requirements for labor skills, necessary training should be received before entering this industry. Compared with labors without receiving skill training, the skill training increases near 6 percentage points for promoting employment of land-expropriated farmers in service industry, while it increases as high as 21 percentage points for boosting employment of land-expropriated farmers in industrial production department^[7].

2.4 Relation between skill training and employment ability

Skill training is an essential part of human capital investment of land-expropriated farmers. Under the premise of physical health and certain educational level, land-expropriated farmers should have certain skills for participating in economic activities. Acquisition of such ability is mainly realized through vocational (practical skill) training. Developed countries such as Japan and Germany attach great importance to improving vocational skills of workers. No matter public sectors of government, private organizations, various enterprises, and employees, all have a complete set of vocational skill training system^[8].

Skill training of land-expropriated farmers directly concerns their employment quality, while the employment quality directly

influences the possibility of their participation in higher level skill training. Generally, the employment quality is assessed mainly through job availability, working condition, safety and health, right and dignity, welfare and security, training and career prospect, and employment status^[9]. Low educational level, little training investment, and imperfect labor training market lead to low efficiency of land-expropriated farmers participating in skill training. These are mainly manifested in job availability. Land-expropriated farmers have difficulty in finding proper jobs. As to working conditions, most land-expropriated farmers are engaged in industries with low technology content, long labor time and poor working conditions. Compared with urban residents, their working conditions are worse. From the perspective of safety and health, land-expropriated farmers face risk of unemployment at any time and the safety of their workplace is low. From the aspect of training and career prospect, it is difficult for land-expropriated farmers to obtain opportunity of skill training. In respect of employment status, it is difficult for land-expropriated farmers to negotiate matters with employers on the basis of equality, and difficult to participate in social dialogue and organization decision making through the trade union.

2.5 Relation between skill training and wage income Skill training, as an important type of investment of human capital, will directly influence income level of labors. In order to become real citizens and obtain the same employment opportunity and income level as urban residents, land-expropriated farmers have to be provided with similar education and vocational skills. According to our survey, most land-expropriated farmers have low educational level and poor non-agricultural employment skills. It is urgent for them to receive pertinent skill training. Vocational skills of land-expropriated farmers directly influence their income level. Vocational skills are essential requirement for labors in current situations of industrialization and modernization. With vocational skills, land-expropriated farmers can stand out in intense market competition and obtain high income. Our survey indicates that about 57.35% land-expropriated farmers have realized the importance of skill training and necessity of skill training for increasing their income. In our survey, after receiving skill training, about 86.81% land-expropriated farmers realized income growth, while only 13.19% farmers failed to realize income growth. From Fig. 3, it can be seen that, 44.69% (122) land-expropriated farmers have income growth of 0-300 yuan; 29.96% (77) land-expropriated farmers have income growth of 301-600 yuan; 20.25% (48) land-expropriated farmers have income growth of 601-900 yuan; 6.96% (19) land-expropriated farmers have income growth of 901-1200 yuan; 2.56% (7) land-expropriated farmers have income growth of more than 1200 yuan.

These reflect that training experience exerts a significant influence on income growth of land-expropriated farmers. In other words, skill training can increase income level of land-expropriated farmers and is favorable for non-agricultural employment transfer of land-expropriated farmers. Content of skill training is wide,

hierarchical, pertinent and highly practical. Thus, skill training plays a great role in promoting land-expropriated farmers to set up citizen awareness. It is helpful for improving employment quality of land-expropriated farmers in cities and thus skill training can effectively increase income of land-expropriated farmers. By contrast, those land-expropriated farmers without receiving skill training will have relatively narrow employment channel and lack support of employment skills. In addition to backward market competition awareness, land-expropriated farmers will get frustrated in urban labor market. Our survey indicates that employment skill training has better promotion for growth of employment rate and wage income of land-expropriated farmers. The employment rate of land-expropriated farmers having received skill training is about 30% higher than that of those having not received skill training, and the income of land-expropriated farmers having received skill training is also 20% higher than that of those having not received skill training.

2.6 Relation between skill training and employment stability

Skill training of land-expropriated farmers exerts a great effect on their employment stability. From Table 4, we can see that after

receiving skill training, the work duration of land-expropriated farmers becomes long. In other words, skill training can increase the employment stability of land-expropriated farmers. In our survey, after receiving skill training, about 45% land-expropriated farmers realized long time of employment stability. This reveals that skill training plays a positive role in promoting employment of land expropriated farmers. Therefore, it is necessary to strengthen skill training of land-expropriated farmers.

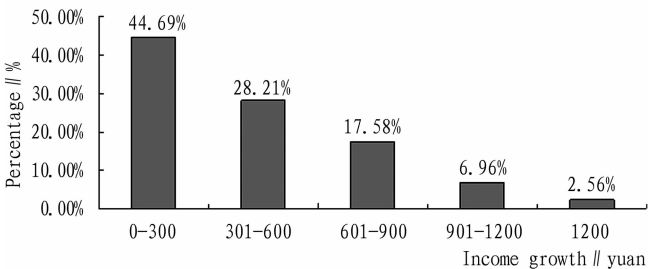


Fig. 3 Income growth of land-expropriated farmers after receiving skill training

Table 4 Comparison of work duration before and after receiving skill training

Work duration of land-expropriated farmers	Before receiving skill training		After receiving skill training	
	Number of people	Percentage//%	Number of people	Percentage//%
1 – 3 months	38	13.92	8	2.93
4 – 6 months	67	24.54	34	12.45
7 – 9 months	73	26.74	46	16.85
10 – 12 months	45	16.48	86	31.50
Longer than 1 year	29	10.62	58	21.25
Longer than 2 years	21	7.68	41	15.02
Total	273	100	273	100

In sum, receiving skill training is the basis of land-expropriated farmers smoothly getting jobs in cities. Through implementing planned, organized, pertinent, and practical skill training, it is expected to raise the employment ability of land-expropriated farmers, so as to effectively help them to find jobs in cities and become real citizens. The equilibrium return rate of human capital investment and marginal income ratio not merely determine the investment amount, and the management system and operating mechanism of such investment are also considerably important^[10]. In the process of employment of land-expropriated farmers in cities, it is recommended to strengthen skill training, raise their employment ability and income creation ability. Skill training is not only helpful for increasing wage income of land-expropriated farmers, but also favorable for satisfying labor demands of enterprises and requirements of industrial structural upgrade for skillful personnel.

3 Conclusions

According to our survey, land-expropriated farmers need to improve their employment ability to smoothly get jobs in cities and really become citizens. Improvement of employment ability lies

mainly in increase in stock of human capital of land-expropriated farmers. Skill training can help land-expropriated farmers to increase the stock of human capital. It is necessary to establish an appropriate training mode with land-expropriated farmers, government departments and land expropriation units as subjects. In this study, we put forward the mode of skill training promoting employment quality. Skill training can raise human resource level of land-expropriated farmers, and increase their labor and employment skills, to help them realize regular employment and smoothly become real citizens. This mode can be illustrated by Fig. 4.

In the context of new urbanization, it is necessary to help land-expropriated farmers to realize their non-agricultural employment through providing skill training for them. For fund sources for skill training, with reference to the rate of extra charges of education funds for enterprises, it is feasible to withdraw 2% from land grant as funds for skill training of land-expropriated farmers. Besides, government and land expropriation unit should bring into play active role in the process of promoting skill training. And skill training should be undertaken under the guidance of government and support of land expropriation unit.

trend of fluctuations due to the impact of price factors. (i) The five variables finally determined have a great impact on pig price, and the confidence level is high, so it can be concluded that China's pig price fluctuations are largely caused by these factors. (ii) The partial regression coefficient of each influencing factor determines the influence of this independent variable on the dependent variable (pig price). The greater the absolute value of coefficient, the greater the weight, the higher the degree of influence of this factor on pig price. (iii) Among all partial regression coefficients, the corresponding coefficient in egg price reaches a maximum, much higher than the parameter values of other variables. This shows that production costs have the greatest impact on pig price, and for each additional unit of egg price, pig price will increase by 0.86 units in theory. (iv) The regression coefficient of maize price is -1.048 , the only one negative value. It is easy to imagine that many farmers predict that the pork price will rise, accumulate a lot of maize and expand the scale of breeding. After the pigs are ready for slaughter, there is oversupply, resulting in pig price decline.

6.2 Policy recommendations Based on pig price fluctuations, it is necessary to increase efforts to support pig production, and play the role of market mechanisms and government regulation in promoting breeding pattern change and improving large-scale and intensive breeding; establish a sound early warning system and improve risk prevention capacity; improve pig industrial chain management, establish pig disease prevention system, and build a good pig production system and regulatory system to realize pig brand management.

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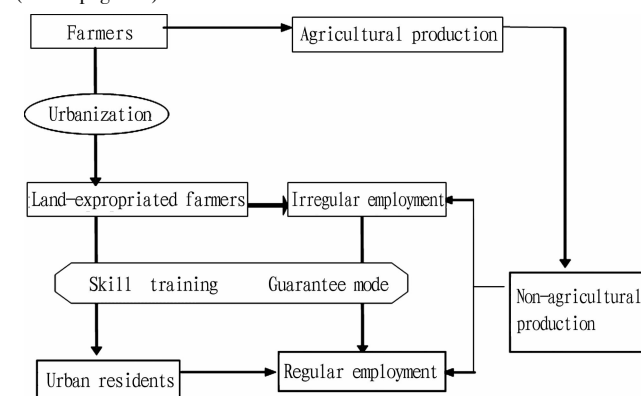


Fig. 4 The mode of skill training promoting employment quality

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